

Appl. No. 09/453,055
Amndt. Dated Mar. 4, 2004
Amend. Under 312

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown.

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Previously Presented) A method of forming a honeycomb sandwich composite panel by a resin transfer molding process consisting of:

stacking a thermosetting sealing material on at least one side of a honeycomb core, said thermosetting sealing material having an adhesive property and consisting of resin film and glass microspheres;

stacking a dry fabric on said thermosetting sealing material;

hardening said sealing material by heating said sealing material and said dry fabric up to the curing temperature of said sealing material at a rate of 1°C per minute or less and maintaining this temperature for a specified curing time period of said sealing material;

impregnating said dry fabric with a thermosetting resin while varying the temperature of said sealing material and said dry fabric to a resin impregnating temperature and maintaining this temperature for a specified period of time; and

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hardening the resin impregnated into said dry fabric by heating said sealing material and said dry fabric to the curing temperature of said thermosetting resin and hot-pressing them for a specified period of time.

3-15 (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The method of forming a honeycomb sandwich composite panel according to Claim 2, wherein:

said curing temperature of said sealing material is about $120 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$, and said specified curing time period is about 130 ± 10 minutes.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of forming a honeycomb sandwich composite panel according to Claim 2, wherein:

said sealing material is laminated by a plurality of said thermosetting resin films.

18.-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) A method of forming a honeycomb sandwich composite panel by a resin transfer molding process comprising:

stacking a thermosetting sealing material having an adhesive property on at least one side of a honeycomb core, said thermosetting sealing material consisting of a plurality of epoxy resin adhesive films and a carrier material used as an adhesive film placed between said epoxy resin films;

stacking a dry fabric on said thermosetting sealing material;

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hardening said sealing material by heating said sealing material and said dry fabric to the curing temperature of said sealing material at a rate of 1°C per minute or less and maintaining this temperature for a specified curing time period of said sealing material;

impregnating said dry fabric with a thermosetting resin while varying the temperature of said sealing material and said dry fabric to a resin impregnating temperature and maintaining this temperature for a specified period of time; and

hardening the resin impregnated into said dry fabric by heating said sealing material and said dry fabric to the curing temperature of said thermosetting resin and hot-pressing them for a specified period of time.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of forming a honeycomb sandwich composite panel according to claim 24, wherein:

said curing temperature of said sealing material is about $120 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ and said specified curing time period is about 130 ± 10 minutes.

26. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a honeycomb sandwich ~~composite~~ composite panel by a resin transfer molding process comprising:

stacking a thermosetting sealing material having an adhesive property on at least one side of a honeycomb core, said thermosetting sealing material consisting of epoxy resin adhesive films and an epoxy resin film placed between said epoxy resin films;

stacking a dry fabric on said thermosetting sealing material;

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hardening said sealing material by heating said sealing material and said dry fabric up to the curing temperature of said sealing material at a rate of 1°C per minute or less and maintaining this temperature for a specified curing time ~~exied~~ period of said sealing material;

impregnating said dry fabric with a thermosetting resin while varying the temperature of said sealing material and said dry fabric to a resin impregnating temperature and maintaining this temperature for a specified period of time; and

hardening the resin impregnated into said dry fabric by heating said sealing material and said dry fabric to the curing temperature of said thermosetting resin and hot-pressing them for a specified period of time.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of forming a honeycomb sandwich composite panel according to claim 26, wherein:

said curing temperature of said sealing material is about $120 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ and said specified curing time period is about 130 ± 10 minutes.

28. (Previously Presented) A method of forming a honeycomb sandwich composite panel by a resin transfer molding process comprising:

stacking a thermosetting sealing material having an adhesive property on at least one side of a honeycomb core, said thermosetting sealing material consisting of three epoxy resin adhesive films;

stacking a dry fabric on said thermosetting sealing material;

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hardening said sealing material by heating said sealing material and said dry fabric up to the curing temperature of said sealing material at a rate of 1°C per minute or less and maintaining this temperature for a specified curing time period of said sealing material;

impregnating said dry fabric with a thermosetting resin while varying the temperature of said sealing material and said dry fabric to a resin impregnating temperature and maintaining this temperature for a specified period of time; and

hardening the resin impregnated into said dry fabric by heating said sealing material and said dry fabric to the curing temperature of said thermosetting resin and hot-pressing them for a specified period of time.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of forming a honeycomb sandwich composite panel according to claim 28, wherein:

said curing temperature of said sealing material is about $120 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ and said specified curing time period is about 130 ± 10 minutes.